

CLAIMS

1. A stent made from a material for providing three-dimensional visualization of a surrounding tissue when said stent is inserted into said tissue and viewed under an imaging beam, said stent having a coating selected from a group consisting of hydrophilic, hydrophobic and fatty acid polymers and a density enhancing radiologic material embedded into said polymer.
5
2. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said coating includes a restenosis inhibiting drug.
3. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said enhancing radiologic material is a dehydrated nonionic contrast.
10
4. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said enhancing radiologic material is a lyophilized iodinated contrast.
5. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said enhancing radiologic material is a tungsten, tantalum, or barium contrast.
15
6. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said enhancing radiologic material is a gadolinium based contrast.
7. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said enhancing radiologic material is a lipiodol or ethiodol based contrast.
8. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said material is selected from the group consisting of inconel and metal glass.
20

9. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said material is selected from the group consisting of metals such as nitinol and stainless steel.
10. The stent according to claim 1 wherein said material is selected from the group consisting of a robust plastic and polymeric formulation.

5 11. The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent elutes said density enhancing material by bulk erosion, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

10 12. The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent elutes said density enhancing material by surface erosion, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

13. The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent elutes said density enhancing material by diffusion, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

14. The stent of claim 1, wherein said stent elutes said density enhancing material by degradation, such that said stent has increased visibility when viewed under an imaging beam than said stent prior to elution.

15 15. The stent of any of claims 11-14, wherein said imaging beam is CT.

16. The stent of any of claims 11-15, wherein said imaging beam is MR.

17. The stent of any of claims 11-16, wherein said stent further includes a restenosis 20 inhibiting drug.